



Tokyo Woes

Presented by the Hampton Roads Naval Museum

“Tokyo Woes” Identification

Background Information:

- Released: 1945 by Warner Bros. Cartoons
- Director: Bob Clampett
- Producer: Leon Schlesinger
- Voices:
 - Sara Berner
 - Mel Blanc (famous for voicing Bugs Bunny and many other Looney Tunes characters)
 - Frank Graham
 - Arthur Lake (Mr. Hook)
- Mr. Hook is the title character of a series of 4 animated cartoon shorts, including “Tokyo Woes,” produced between 1943 and 1945 for the U.S. Navy.



Plot: The cartoon parodies the Tokyo Rose radio broadcast in Japan and shows Mr. Hook on a battleship shooting a shell to Japan after Tokyo Rose broadcasts a message discouraging servicemen from buying war bonds. The shell later returns to Mr. Hook after the war to pay him for his bonds.

Tokyo Rose:

- This was the name given by Allied troops in the South Pacific during WWII to English-speaking female radio broadcasters of Japanese propaganda. The most famous or infamous “Tokyo Rose” was Iva Ikuko Toguri d’Aquino. She was born on July 4, 1916, in Los Angeles, CA to Japanese immigrants. In 1941, she was sent to Japan to help with her ailing aunt. Unable to return to the states due to the war, she was stuck in Japan. She began working at Radio Tokyo as a typist and eventually began work as a radio announcer on the “Zero Hour” radio show. After the war, she was accused of treason for her radio broadcasts and spent nearly 30 years in prison.

War Bonds:

- War bonds are debt securities for the purpose of financing military operations during wartime. They were essentially a loan to the government to finance the war effort. The bonds yielded a 2.9% return after a 10-year maturity. The first Series ‘E’ U.S. savings bond was sold to President Franklin D. Roosevelt by Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau. More than 85 million Americans purchased bonds, totaling \$185.7 billion.